CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

Government Code § 11430.10. Ex parte communications

- (a) While the proceeding is pending there shall be no communication, direct or indirect, regarding any issue in the proceeding, to the presiding officer from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party or from an interested person outside the agency, without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate in the communication.
- (b) Nothing in this section precludes a communication, including a communication from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party, made on the record at the hearing.
- (c) For the purpose of this section, a proceeding is pending from the issuance of the agency's pleading, or from an application for an agency decision, whichever is earlier.

Government Code § 11430.20. Permissible ex parte communications

- A communication otherwise prohibited by Section 11430.10 is permissible in any of the following circumstances:
- (a) The communication is required for disposition of an ex parte matter specifically authorized by statute.
- (b) The communication concerns a matter of procedure or practice, including a request for a continuance, that is not in controversy.

Government Code § 11430.30. Permissible ex parte communication from agency that is party

- A communication otherwise prohibited by Section 11430.10 from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party to the presiding officer is permissible in any of the following circumstances:
- (a) The communication is for the purpose of assistance and advice to the presiding officer from a person who has not served as investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in the proceeding or its preadjudicative stage. An assistant or advisor may evaluate the evidence in the record but shall not furnish, augment, diminish, or modify the evidence in the record.
- (b) The communication is for the purpose of advising the presiding officer concerning a settlement proposal advocated by the advisor.
- (c) The communication is for the purpose of advising the presiding officer concerning any of the following matters in an adjudicative proceeding that is nonprosecutorial in character:
- (1) The advice involves a technical issue in the proceeding and the advice is necessary for, and is not otherwise reasonably available to, the presiding officer, provided the content of the advice is disclosed on the record and all parties are given an opportunity to address it in the manner provided in Section 11430.50.
- (2) The advice involves an issue in a proceeding of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, California Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Delta Protection Commission, Water Resources Control Board, or a regional water quality control board.

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION REGULATION

Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 20013. Ex Parte Contacts

- a) Decisions of the Commission on appeals heard under Public Resources Code § 29770 shall be based strictly on the evidence presented during the public hearing. The Commission shall not rely upon any communications, reports, staff memoranda, or other materials prepared in connection with a particular appeal unless those materials are made a part of the hearing record.
- b) If commissioners receive written or oral communications from any person concerning a pending appeal outside the formal hearing process, they shall disclose, on the record and prior to a Commission vote on the appeal, both the existence and substance of the communications.